



# AZ Legislative District 23 Republican Committee

*Web: [www.ld23gop.org](http://www.ld23gop.org)*

**Jim O'Connor, Chairman 602-538-9387**

## The Lincoln Link

June 2015

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**NEXT MEETING OF LD23**

**June 11, 2015**

**Mustang Library**

**Scottsdale, AZ**

**6:30 Sign-in, 7:00 Meeting**

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### **CHAIRMAN'S CORNER – Jim O'Connor**

Thank you to every one of our 271 members who participated in the May 14<sup>th</sup> By-Law Amendment Adoption vote which passed with 70% voting in favor of adoption. These changes will benefit every PC in that we as a group will have the ability to endorse candidates in Republican Primaries, just like former Governor's, Chambers of Commerce and Fire Fighter Unions. My compliments to everyone for conducting themselves in a civil and respectful manner at that meeting. We need to be able to disagree on issues from time to time without burning bridges.

On Tuesday evening June 2<sup>nd</sup> I witnessed Divine Providence at work at the City of Scottsdale Council meeting at the Kiva. One of our LD 23 Precinct Committeeman, Dr. Dennis Weiland, was in attendance for purposes of commenting on our City's third rendition of yet another City bond issue.

Dennis was seated in the second row on the aisle directly across from City staff in attendance. About 50 minutes into the proceedings, City Manager Fritz Behring began a seizure. Dennis went into action and saved the man's life. 911 was called immediately and arrived in about ½ hour. Thank God for Dennis.

An on a closing note, summer has arrived. Prior to our last General Meeting before summer break, we will hold a district prayer meeting from 6:00PM to 6:30PM for all those interested in attending are most welcome.

On behalf of your Board, I express our thanks for your engaging with us in district activities and wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer vacation. Upon our returning together in September, we will be consumed with productive activities as we make final preparations for the 2016 election cycle. So let us all rest while we are able. See you in September!

## **HAPPENING IN SCOTTSDALE - Guy Phillips**

A Tale of Two Bureaucracies

By Guy Phillips

Once upon a time a city known simply as Scottsdale and a school district with the anachronism "SUSD" teamed up to form a new union called "Manipulating Public Funds, or MPF. The goal of MPF is to allow SUSD to acquire prime downtown taxpayer-owned property for free.

The method is ingenious! First, Scottsdale must put up the developed land for sale so SUSD can make an offer on the property. They do this by bringing it to the council under the guise of property that the city doesn't need and thereby considered excess property that we can sell and use to help balance the budget. The council agrees 7/0. (Yes, I fell for it.)

Next, SUSD makes an offer which is less than the city appraisal. In this case, \$2,022,000.00.

I email Dan Worth, our public works director and Fritz Behring, city manager, to ask if this is the property swap that was rumored back when Jennifer Peterson was running for city council during the time of the infamous Rally at McCormick Park with Council members Korte and Milhaven and the Saguaro High School band. Mr Worth assured me there is no swap and it is just coincidence.

Of course, SUSD has to come up with the money. But how? Scottsdale once again jumps in and proposes they buy the property adjacent to Apache elementary school, currently a grass park owned by SUSD. But why should the city buy the park? They already have an IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) to maintain the park. So here's the genius: Tell the Council that Scottsdale needs to buy this

property in order to create a retention basin to prevent future flooding in the neighborhood. This ruse is put into the council consent agenda to purchase the land from SUSD for.....wait for it.....\$2,022,000.00!

But there's a hitch in the giddyup! Councilman Phillips pulls it from the consent agenda and asks the staff why we have to purchase this property since we already have an IGA with SUSD to maintain the park and if we want to make the park into a retention basin we can anyway without SUSD's permission since it's a public safety issue and it would still remain a park maintained by Scottsdale and owned by SUSD.

Worried that SUSD may get stuck with the city property and not sell the park property to pay for it, SUSD pulls the sale from the agenda until the following council meeting. At that meeting, council votes FIRST to approve the purchase of the park land from SUSD. The very next item on the agenda is for council to approve the sale of the city property to SUSD. Both votes are 6/1. (Fool me once....)

One can only conclude that the new MFP group celebrated afterward at the nearest bar for successfully hookwinking the public and city council into giving prime downtown property to SUSD for free.

You have to admit, it's genius! Kudos to staff for figuring out a way for certain individuals to repay each other for past or future favors. My only hope is the current audit of Dr. Peterson's budget will expose the guilty parties on both sides so these shenanigans don't continue.

### **FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN – Nancy Ordowski**

During the month of April, with the support and organization of our Area Directors 4 social barbecues were held and these social events gave many of us the opportunity to begin to build relationships with one another. Something that is difficult to do at the important structured District Meetings. Since then Area Director Linda Longazel took the idea a step further and with the assistance of Captains from Hualapai and Grayhawk precincts held a social to further encourage PC's to begin to know each other better and to develop associations to begin to work together to do the work of the Precinct Committeemen.

We encourage our Area Directors and Captains to begin to put together such gatherings, and your officers will be happy to join in these socials. We will be able to share information and ideas that come from each of these gatherings. We also want to meet each of you in smaller groups so all of you get an opportunity to share your ideas with us. Please note e-mail address are not to be shared unless you have permission from the PC's involved.

If you had your picture taken at the Breakfast or May 14 meeting they are ready and will be available for you to pick up at the June 11 District Meeting.

Also, watch for additional training programs, dates and locations to be announced.

You can always reach me at [ncordowski@gmail.com](mailto:ncordowski@gmail.com) or 480-203-5278.

## **SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN - Rich Rutkowski**

Our meeting on June 11 will be back at Mustang Library. Our guest speaker is Neville Verster, one of our PC's from Fountain Hills. Neville represents Alliance Defending Freedom (formerly known as Alliance Defense Fund), an organization based in Scottsdale which provides legal counsel and defense for individuals and organizations facing threats to religious liberty and the freedom of religious expression. Neville is a dynamic speaker and will give us an update on this very timely and important subject.

After our June meeting, we'll be taking a break from general meetings during the months of July & August, and resume on Thursday, September 10. Details on the speaker agenda for that meeting will be found on the web site, [www.ld23gop.org](http://www.ld23gop.org), once those details are finalized. Please also mark your calendar for Larry Hagan's annual "Friendraiser" event on August 18. Visit the web site on a regular basis to keep apprised of other dates and information.

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**REMEMBER: No meetings in July and August. Enjoy your summer.**  
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## **CHAIRMAN EMERITUS - Joe Meli**

Dear Fellow Precinct Committeeman,

Late last month the citizens of a European country voted decisively to overturn a long-held social norm. Considering that said country was once very religiously conservative, this took many observers by surprise. It need not have. If we put aside the question of the particular issue argued, for the purpose of discussion, we are left facing a stark reality: the power of the left has reached a social apex. Regardless of how one stands on an issue, it must be obvious that the left was able to wage a successful campaign to change the way an entire country views itself and what it believes. It was, in short, revolutionary.

As conservatives, we must look at our own country, and our own efforts to preserve it. This incredibly rapid overturning of millennia of social and political thinking was brought about by a commanding use of the tools that are now common-place in the world today. The media, both news-oriented and social, the entertainment industry, both television and film, plus every other form of communication in today's world was harnessed to achieve this end.

Imagine if we conservatives become as engaged and coordinated in our efforts? What might we achieve?

It is true, we don't control the media or entertainment, but we all do live in communities, and isn't that where any movement is most effective? If we study the structure and technique of our political adversaries, one thing becomes clear: they are practiced in the affirmative argument.

They always seem to put opposition viewpoints and those who make them on the defensive. They have gotten so used to not being argued with, or challenged on rational grounds in their assertions, that it is almost an effortless task to move our country down any road they choose.

In case you didn't know it, the issue voted on in said European country, affected just about 4% of the population. Let that sink in. Just about 4% of the population of a nation had taken control of the social discourse on one issue that mattered to them. That, my fellow PCs, is what the power to persuade can accomplish.

Again, this is NOT, I repeat, NOT a discussion about the merits of any particular issue past or present. It is instead a reminder of how our society has changed in the WAY issues are argued and ultimately won or lost.

If we are to succeed in 2016, we'd better know our stand on issues, our party platform and be equipped and ready to not only defend our position, but PROMOTE our position. If 4% of the people could take charge of an issue, then surely 30 to 40% of the people could do so as well! If we are truly committed to our cause, then we must act upon it. Get involved at the grassroots. Your time, your passion and your love of country will not be in vain. We just need to step out into the light and do it.

Regards,

Joe Meli  
Chairman Emeritus

### **TREASURER - Valerie Giramberk**

**DISTRICT 23 REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE  
Statement of Income and Expense  
Month Ended May 31, 2015**

<b>BEGINNING BANK BALANCE</b>	<b>\$5,766.91</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>	
Contributions	\$ 850.00
Legislators' Breakfast	\$ 520.00
Restitution	\$ 30.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b><u>\$1,400.00</u></b>

## EXPENSES

Office Supplies	\$ 39.94
Printing and Meeting Supplies (By-laws)	\$ 172.41
Postage (By-laws mailing)	\$ 68.60
Election Expenses (Ballots/Monitor)	\$ 20.00
Meeting Room/Equipment	\$ 135.00
Misc. Expense	\$ 356.00
Legislators' Breakfast	\$1,679.39
Area Directors' Events	\$ 58.64

**TOTAL EXPENSES**\$2,529.98

**NET INCOME** **\$ (1,129.98)**

**ENDING BANK BALANCE**\$4,636.93

**PETTY CASH**\$ 60.04

**TOTAL BALANCE**\$4,696.97

Please remember to pay your 2015 dues before our summer break. Checks should be made out to LD 23 Republican Committee and mailed to: LD 23 Republican Committee, 8776 E Shea Blvd, Ste 106-341, Scottsdale, AZ 85260. Thank you to the 105 PCs who have already paid as well as those who have made additional contributions. Have a great summer.

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## **DISTRICT 23 MINUTES - Judy Lawrence, Secretary**

**Arizona Legislative District 23**

**District Meeting**

**Fountain Hills Unified School District Learning Center**

**May 14, 2015**

**7:00 pm**

With concurrence of the members present, the District Meeting of the members of Arizona Republican Legislative District 23, held at Fountain Hills Unified School District Learning Center, Fountain Hills was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Jim O'Connor.

Officers Present:

Jim O'Connor, Chairman

Valerie Giramberk, Treasurer

Rich Rutkowski, Second Vice Chair

Judith Lawrence, Secretary

Also present was parliamentarian, Christopher Campbell

Chairman Jim O'Connor opened the meeting with a special announcement that he had been presented with a letter from Jeff Schwartz's Attorney, Kory Langhofer, concluding that our meeting needed to be cancelled and the bylaw vote not taken because they were illegal. Mr. O'Connor then introduced Karyl Krug, (litigation counsel representing the LD 23 Board) who after a brief review of the Langhofer letter

concluded that letter was of no consequence. And she advised the district to proceed with the meeting and its vote on the bylaws.

**The Invocation** was given by Mark Spencer and the Pledge of Allegiance was given by Dr. CT Wright

**Second Vice Chairman** - Rick Rutkowski

The next meeting will be June 11, 2015 at the Mustang Library. Neville Verster from Alliance Defending Freedom will be the Guest Speaker on the topic of religious freedom.

Mark Spencer was introduced as the guest speaker. He spoke on Judicial Watch, a non-partisan organization that has taken on the responsibility of holding the government accountable for its actions.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** – Chairman, Jim O'Connor explained the process and order of the proceedings. Second Vice Chairman - Rick Rutkowski addressed the membership with responses to the list of questions which had been circulating throughout the district for a week or two prior to the meeting. One minute of comment, pro and con, was allotted to 5 speakers about the bylaws. However only 4 pro and con chose to speak. Thereafter, the voting was held by paper ballot. By-Law adoption vote passed with 70% of the 271 members voting.

**Treasurer** - Valerie Giramberk gave her report. The report was accepted and a copy can be found in this newsletter.

**The minutes** of the previous meeting were presented in the May, 2015 newsletter. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Liz Alcorn and seconded by Ron Schott.

Chairman Jim O'Connor introduced Patty Stetson who spoke on The Center for Self Governance.

A motion was made to adjourn by Ron Schott and seconded by Liz Alcorn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Congratulations are in order to our dynamic Republican women in LD23, members of the National Federation of Republican Women:

Elected to:

1st Vice President - Lori Urban

Delegates-at-Large - Leona Johnston and Barb McMullen

Alternate-at-Large - Pat Kaufman

**EVENTS:**

**Annual Hagan Friendraiser**  
13th Annual Friendraiser Party  
Saturday, August 15  
6:30pm  
8219 E. Jackrabbit Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
480-947-0364

Further details to follow - Save the date!

Summer Schedule for **Moral Action Ministry at North Scottsdale Christian Church**

**Circle these dates onto your calendar, please attend and support these Great Speakers!**

- **June 20--Ancient Christians in Despair**-description, solutions to the Persecution of Iraqi's, Syrians, Kurds, Armenians, and Yazidi's in the Middle East. There will be three speakers telling their story and experiences, which will give you a better understanding of what is really happening over in ancient Christian lands.
- **July 18--The Mosques as Propagation Centers for Jihad- Dr. Carl Goldberg,** As the Islamic invasion advances, mosques are proliferating across the United States at breakneck speed. And there appears to be no end in sight. Mosques are a symbol of Islamic supremacism. Islam attacks. Then it plants a triumphal mosque on the battlefield. And another. And another. And another. Mosques pose a dual risk to Americans. As to the first point, recent studies show that 80% of mosques preach jihad (through sermons and/or materials) and that more than 95% of Muslims attend such mosques.
  - **July 18--Anti-Semitism in Europe and America**-Are the 1930's returning to world again in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?  
**July 18-- Latest Events Pertaining to Martyrdom Caused by ISIS-Dr. Malak Malak** will give us an update on the Slaughter of Coptic Christians in Libya, and updates of success in Egypt to eradicate the Muslim Brotherhood, and ISIS in the Sinai Peninsula.
- **August 15--Jeff Gardner--Arming the Minority Christians in Syria and Iraq.** Jeff will describe the work his groups are doing in these Countries. This force, called the Nineveh Plain Protection Units (NPU), will be composed mainly of Assyrians who have already volunteered to fight ISIS. Thanks to the work of the Assyrian Democratic Movement in Iraq, this force is already being organized, trained and equipped. [www.restoreninevehnow.org](http://www.restoreninevehnow.org) and

[turechristians.org](http://turechristians.org) are just two of the organizations that he is working through to bring the truth out about the Middle East.

- **August 15--Additional Special Guest Speaker on Islam and the current crisis worldwide!**  
The speaker is well known in his community on the subject matter.
- **August 15—Aaron Ginn--How to think about Liberty in today's world from a Christian perspective.** He is 20 years old and talks about how Millennials will save America. He is the Co-founder of Lincoln Labs, ([www.lincolnlabs.com](http://www.lincolnlabs.com)) and former Growth Product Manager at Romney 2012 and Stumble Upon. He advises several Bay Area city municipalities on how to use technology to increase constituent engagement. He attend TCU where he studied behavioral economics and finance. **“Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act”** Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1906-1945, German Lutheran Pastor. Donations Welcome-Organizations promote your cause-**Tables for Free!** North Scottsdale Christian Church, 28700 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale, AZ. 85266. For more information: [giza@cox.net](mailto:giza@cox.net) or 602-818-8838

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## **DISTRICT 23 REPUBLICAN CLUB NEWS:**

**Paradise Republican Women** will meet Saturday, June 13, 2015 at Gainey Ranch Golf Club, 7600 N Gainey Golf Club Drive, Scottsdale, 10:30 sign in and social, 11:00 meeting. Meet the **Scottsdale City Council** members to find out what is happening in Scottsdale. \$30pp Mail checks/reservations to PRWC, P.O. Box 14425, Scottsdale, AZ 85267

**Lincoln Republican Women's Club** will meet Mon, June 29 with Congressman **David Schweikert** to hear him address “Making Cents out of Politics” at the New McCormick/”Millennium” Resort, Scottsdale-McCormick Ranch, 7401 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85253-3548 (Between E. Cheney and E. McCormick Rds on the East side of Scottsdale Road). Spouses invited 5:30 pm – meet and greet, 6 pm – business meeting, 6:20 pm – dinner and 6:45 pm program. \$35 per person. Reservations required by June 25 to Judy Eisenhower, [egiaz@cox.net](mailto:egiaz@cox.net)

### **Palo Verde Republican Women**

Palo Verde will be dark July and August.

June meeting is on the 17th. 11:00 Social, 11:30

Keynote speaker Nick Dranias - topic Constitutional Convention  
Lunch: Apple Brie Stuffed Chicken Breast, vegetables

Coffee/ Tea/ Rolls/ Butter/ Red Velvet Cake.

### **Fountain Hills Republican Club**

The Fountain Hills Republican Club will continue to meet throughout the summer. If your club or other political organization closes for the summer, FHRC meetings or GOP Socials are a perfect place to catch up with the latest political news and to meet with friends and fellow Republicans.

The Club meets for formal meetings with guest speakers at 9 a.m. on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Fountain Hills Community Center, 13001 N La Montana Dr, F.H. 85268. "Meet and Greet" Social period with breakfast snacks commences at 8:30. The summer speaker schedule is:

June 20: Jon Riche from the Goldwater Institute

July 18: Sheriff Paul Babeu

August 15: Glen Hamer, CEO, Arizona Chamber of Commerce

The Club informally meets socially at 6:00 on the 4th Tuesday of each month at various restaurants for a NO speeches, no reservations, no host social. The summer schedule is:

June 23 Social: Saponi D'Italia, 11865 N Saguaro Blvd, F.H.

July 28 Social: Tap House, 16828 Parkview Ave, F.H.

Additional information can be obtained from Boe James, Club Secretary at FHRepublican@gmail.com or by visiting the club's website at FHRepublicanClub.org

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